of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/926,297, filed September 5, 1997, abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/725,842, filed September 30, 1996, abandoned, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/138,271, filed October 15, 1993, abandoned.

In the claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A therapeutic composition for treating a human or animal comprising,

a compound [capable of altering nucleic acid function] for altering gene activity admixed with a nonionic block copolymer, wherein the block copolymer has the following formula:

$$HO(C_2H_4O)_b(C_3H_6O)_a(C_2H_4O)_bH$$

wherein the molecular weight represented by the polyoxypropylene portion of the copolymer is between approximately 750 and 15,000 and the molecular weight represented by the polyoxyethylene portion of the copolymer [constitutes between] is approximately 1% and] less than 50% of the copolymer.

5. (Amended) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the compound [capable of altering nucleic acid sequence function] for altering gene activity is selected from the group consisting of genes, oligonucleotides, antisense oligonucleotides, triplex DNA compounds, and ribozymes.

6. (Amended) The composition of [Claim 7] Claim 1 further comprising approximately 0.1% to approximately 5% by weight of a surfactant and approximately 0.5% to approximately 5% by volume of an low molecular weight alcohol.

8. (Amended) The composition of Claim 7 further comprising an expression vector, and wherein the compound [capable of altering nucleic acid sequence function] for altering gene activity is a nucleic acid sequence contained in the expression vector, and the expression vector is capable of expressing the nucleic acid sequence.

9. (Amended) A method of delivering a compound [capable of altering nucleic acid sequence function] for altering gene activity to a human or animal comprising,
the step of administering to a human or animal a composition comprising a compound [capable of altering nucleic acid sequence function] for altering gene activity admixed with a nonionic block copolymer, wherein the block copolymer has the following formula:

$$HO(C_2H_4O)_b(C_3H_6O)_a(C_2H_4O)_bH$$

wherein the molecular weight represented by the polyoxypropylene portion of the copolymer is between approximately 750 and 15,000 and the molecular weight represented by the polyoxyethylene portion of the copolymer constitutes [between approximately 1% and] less than 50% of the copolymer.

13. (Amended) The ~~method of Claim 9~~ wherein the compound [capable of altering nucleic acid sequence function] altering gene activity